

# **SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET**

## **Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services**

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Thirty-fourth Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.*

### **Residents of Thirty-fourth Middlesex Representative District**

#### **Characteristics of Admissions**

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 2.1% (2,443) of these admissions reside in the Thirty-fourth Middlesex Representative District. 5% (128) of admissions from the Thirty-fourth Middlesex Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Thirty-fourth Middlesex Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 74% were male and 26% were female.
- 56% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 82% were white non-Latino, 8% were black non-Latino, 6% were Latino, and 4% were other racial categories.
- 68% were never married, 11% were married, and 20% reported not to be married now.
- 28% had less than high school education, 50% completed high school, and 22% had more than high school education.
- 16% were employed.
- 20% were homeless.
- 26% had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Primary Substance of Use**

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Thirty-fourth Middlesex Representative District.

<b>Table 1</b>					
<b>Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003</b>					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	41%	40%	6%	4%	1%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

#### **Substances Used in Past Year**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003</b>							
<b>Thirty-fourth Middlesex Representative District</b>							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '95</b>	1,805	1,492	606	725	400	481	287
<b>FY '96</b>	1,831	1,512	617	644	427	595	368
<b>FY '97</b>	1,798	1,466	552	579	407	613	423
<b>FY '98</b>	1,704	1,331	538	540	308	639	457
<b>FY '99</b>	1,690	1,269	523	550	256	731	546
<b>FY '00</b>	1,868	1,334	531	585	240	858	671
<b>FY '01</b>	1,912	1,387	515	594	259	942	742
<b>FY '02</b>	1,964	1,350	490	566	300	888	707
<b>FY '03</b>	2,443	1,565	719	673	318	1,161	890

### **Heroin and Injection Drug Use**

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Thirty-fourth Middlesex Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

